

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant:** JAMES N. RAY                      **Examiner:** To be assigned  
**Application No.:** To be assigned  
**Filing Date:** To be assigned                      **Art Unit:** To be assigned  
**Title:** Cellulose Preservative Method and Apparatus

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Hon. Commissioner for Patents  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith is applicant's divisional patent application, directed to the non-elected subject matter of parent United States Application No. 09/766,385, filed January 19, 2001.

Remarks

The specification for the above-identified divisional patent application has been amended to establish a cross-reference to its corresponding parent application Serial No. 09/766,385, filed January 19, 2001. Applicant requests the benefit of the parent '385 application filing date for the instant divisional application.

The claims have been amended to withdraw from this divisional application those claims that were considered in the prosecution of the parent '385 application. Accordingly, claims 1 through 8, 13 and 14 are withdrawn, leaving claims 9 through 12, inclusive, pending in this divisional application.

Applicant believes that this divisional application is in a condition for allowance and early allowance of claims 8 through 12, inclusive is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is urged to telephone undersigned counsel at the number noted below it if will advance the prosecution of this application.

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